



## City of Birmingham Design Review Committee Meeting Minutes July 14, 2021

**Meeting Time: 7:30 a.m.**

**Meeting Location: Birmingham City Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Council Chamber**

(Webex Video Link: <https://birmingham.webex.com/birmingham/j.php?MTID=m38965758d7957c441fcd446c9d9fa7e2>)

Phone Number: 1/415-655-0002 or 1/312-5358110; Meeting Access Code: 146 606 1720; Meeting Password: DuMxQz4Hj74)

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Applicants please note: The decisions of the Design Review Committee (the Committee) are binding. It is each applicant's responsibility to see that the decisions of the Committee are carried out as stipulated. Any changes or deviations from the Committee's decision, including but not limited to: colors, forms, configurations, materials, assemblies or any other aspects of the approved work shall not be undertaken by the applicant or the applicant's agent unless said changes are approved by the Committee beforehand. Under the terms of City ordinance, any change or deviation from work approved by the Committee constitutes a violation of the ordinance and renders the applicant subject to citation with penalties as prescribed by a city magistrate.

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Members Present: Lea Ann Macknally, Richard Mauk, Willie Oliver, Chris Swain, Ben Wieseman, Brian Wolfe

Members Absent: Abra Barnes, Scott Burnett, Creig Hoskins, Ivan Holloway, Shelia Montgomery-Mills

Staff Present: Karla Calvert, Lauren Havard, John Sims

Others Present: John Forney, Laura Lee Grusin, Paul Roderick

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. by Chairman Mauk. He stated that the minutes from the 6/23/2021 meeting were ready. Macknally made a motion to approve the minutes. Oliver seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**I. Name:** Mr. Erik Selberg

**Site Address:** 2000 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue South (Avadian Credit Union)

**District:** Midtown

**Requesting approval for:** Awning color change and updating the master signage plan

**Statements:** Havard presented the plan to update the signage master plan. She stated that the applicant wanted to change the color of their awning, but not the structure or profile of it. She also stated that they wanted to add window vinyl graphics as shown in the handout. Havard stated that the owner of the building approved the changes to the master signage plan. Wolfe asked if the applicant also wanted the light box approved. Havard said yes. Wieseman asked if the light box was allowed per the Guidelines. Sims said no. Wieseman clarified that the vinyl window graphics wouldn't cover more than 20% of the window area.

**Motion:** Wieseman made a motion to approve the signage master plan edits to exclude



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the light box.

**Motion seconded by:** Wolfe

**Discussion:** none

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

- II. ~~Name: Mr. Steve Bear~~**  
**~~Site Address: 3209 Ensley Avenue~~**  
**~~District: Five Points West~~**  
**~~Requesting approval for: Renovation~~**

**Statements:** This case was removed from the agenda.

- III. **Name:** Mr. Dustin Fasold (Iron City Construction)**  
**Site Address:** 3001 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue North  
**District:** Norwood (Local Historic District)  
**Requesting approval for:** Fire Restoration- Construct new steps and sidewalk.

**Statements:** Chairman Mauk asked if there was a report from the LHAC. Havard stated that the proposal was approved with conditions by the LHAC, and that the site is a contributing structure. The applicant has agreed to the conditions.

On July 7, 2021, the Local Historic Advisory Committee (LHAC) for the Norwood Local Historic District heard the DRC case for the property located at 3001 15th Ave N, and the Committee took the following action: Approve with Conditions.

The recommendation of the Local Historic Advisory Committee was to Approve with Conditions the design review request for the following reasons:

Page 17-Item P-Retaining Walls

The existing retaining walls are constructed primarily of rubble stone, brick, concrete and cut stone...

.....Original retaining walls shall be maintained and repaired when necessary. Exposed concrete block retaining walls must be faced with materials appropriate to the period and design of the structure.

The recommendation of the Local Historic Advisory Committee was based on the following sections of the local historic district's design guidelines:

P, 17-Item 1 P-Retaining walls



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The Local Historic Advisory Committee also voted to request that the following conditions be placed upon this request:

Reconstructed brick retaining walls that flank the stairs should match the profile and slope of the existing rubble stone retaining walls. (See image below)

The LHAC also made the following findings:



1. The proposed change, erection, or demolition: Conforms to the design standards established.
2. The proposed change, erection, or demolition: Is compatible with the character of the historic property and the historic district and does not detract from their historic value.
3. The proposed erection, alteration, restoration, relocation or demolition, in whole or in part: Will not detrimentally change, destroy, or adversely affect any significant architectural feature of the resource.
4. The proposed erection, alteration, restoration, relocation or demolition, in whole or in part: Will be compatible with the exterior features of other improvements within the District.

The applicant was not present to present his case. Macknally asked if the applicant had agreed to the condition. Havard said yes. Macknally verified that the house work had already been approved, and the only work proposed at this time was for the stairs. Macknally verified that the steps would be stone and not brick.

**Motion:** Swain made a motion to approve this proposal as presented, in agreement with the LHAC.

**Motion seconded by:** Macknally

**Discussion:** none

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

- IV. Name:** Mr. John Forney  
**Site Address:** 3810 Glenwood Avenue



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**District:** Forest Park (Local Historic District)

**Requesting approval for:** Enclosure of an existing screened porch to make a conditioned sun room

**Statements:** Chairman Mauk asked if there was a report from the LHAC. Havard stated that the proposal was approved by the LHAC, and that the site is a contributing structure.

On July 8, 2021, the Local Historic Advisory Committee (LHAC) for the Forest Park Local Historic District heard the DRC case for the property located at 3810 Glenwood Av. S. and the Committee took the following action: Approve.

The recommendation of the Local Historic Advisory Committee was to approve the request for the following reason: Applicant's plan is in keeping with the architectural integrity of the neighborhood.

The LHAC also made the following findings:

1. The proposed change, erection, or demolition: Conforms to the design standards established.
2. The proposed change, erection, or demolition: Is compatible with the character of the historic property and the historic district and does not detract from their historic value.
3. The proposed erection, alteration, restoration, relocation or demolition, in whole or in part: Will not detrimentally change, destroy, or adversely affect any significant architectural feature of the resource.
4. The proposed erection, alteration, restoration, relocation or demolition, in whole or in part: Will be compatible with the exterior features of other improvements within the District.

Mr. Forney presented his plan to enclose an existing porch. Mr. Forney stated that he would use siding and windows to enclose the porch. Macknally asked if the tree adjacent to the porch would be affected. Mr. Forney said no. Wieseman verified that the colors, materials, and windows would match the existing home.

**Motion:** Wieseman made a motion to approve this proposal as presented, in agreement with the LHAC.

**Motion seconded by:** Oliver

**Discussion:** none



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**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

- V. **Name:** Mr. Paul Roderick (Adams Design Associates)  
**Site Address:** 1634 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue South  
**District:** Anderson Place (Local Historic District)  
**Requesting approval for:** Revised garage construction plans

**Statements:** Chairman Mauk asked if there was a report from the LHAC. Havard stated that the proposal was approved as presented by the LHAC. She also stated that this was not a contributing structure.

On July 12th the Neighborhood Association Subcommittee that encompasses the Anderson Place Local Historic District reviewed plans for the property located at 1634 15th Avenue South, and the following action was taken: Approve.

The recommendation of the Neighborhood Association/Subcommittee was to support (as noted above) the design review request for the following reason: Support as it fits all existing requirements.

The LHAC also made the following findings:

1. The proposed change, erection, or demolition: Conforms to the design standards established.
2. The proposed change, erection, or demolition: Is compatible with the character of the historic property and the historic district and does not detract from their historic value.
3. The proposed erection, alteration, restoration, relocation or demolition, in whole or in part: Will not detrimentally change, destroy, or adversely affect any significant architectural feature of the resource.
4. The proposed erection, alteration, restoration, relocation or demolition, in whole or in part: Will be compatible with the exterior features of other improvements within the District.

Mr. Roderick presented his plan to revise the previously approved site plan for the detached garage for this new home. Mr. Roderick stated that he is requesting a variance for the original site plan. If the variance is not approved, then he will need to use the proposed garage design. If the variance is approved, then he will use the previously approved garage design. He stated that the proposed design of the garage will bring the height down on the garage by 10'. Macknally verified that the materials and colors



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would remain the same.

**Motion:** Macknally made a motion to approve this proposal as presented, in agreement with the LHAC.

**Motion seconded by:** Swain

**Discussion:** none

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

- VI. Name:** Mr. Marco Butturini  
**Site Address:** 2218 2nd Avenue North  
**District:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North  
**Requesting approval for:** Outdoor Cafe

**Statements:** Ms. Grusin presented her plan for a new outdoor café with furniture for La Fresca Restaurant. Mauk verified that there would be a minimum 5' between the furniture and the building. She also presented her retractable barricade for ABC requirements. Macknally verified that all the furniture and barricade would be temporary, and that nothing would be anchored. Sims stated that ROW staff had seen these plans and approved them.

**Motion:** Macknally made a motion to approve this proposal as presented on the condition that if the fence changes the applicant must return for approval.

**Motion seconded by:** Wolfe

**Discussion:** none

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

In other discussion, Macknally made a motion to update the DRC application to reflect that paper copies are no longer needed for each DRC member, on the condition that the DRC receives the digital version of the applicants' handouts on the Friday prior to the meeting. Swain seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Wolfe made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Macknally seconded. The motion carried. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 a.m.